

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for igniting a gas flare includes a housing (12, 112) and at least one flow passage (14, 120) extending through the housing (12, 112). A body (16, 124) made from a heat conducting material in communication with the at least one flow passage (14, 120).

A heating element (18, 126) embedded in the body (16, 124) maintains the body (16, 124) at a temperature above an ignition temperature of a combustible mixture of combustion air and combustible gases. The combustible mixture passing along the at least one flow passage (14, 120) is ignited immediately upon coming in contact with the body (16, 124). The apparatus can be a separate from the gas flare or can be incorporated into the construction of the gas flare.